

The House page program is for students in the 11th grade who are at least 16 years of age and have a B or 3.0 high school grade point average. There is a fall and a spring semester program. Students attend a special page school on Capitol Hill during their page service semester. The page school offers a typical 11th grade curriculum, usually with a choice of different math, science, social studies, English and foreign language courses to suit the differing needs of differing students. Additionally, there are two short summer programs for rising 11th and rising 12th graders.

The chief duty of pages within the Capitol complex is to run errands for Members and Committees and to help with administrative duties on and around the House floor.

Pages are nominated or selected by House Members. However, the House page program can only accommodate about 60 pages at one time. Since there are 441 Members and U.S. territorial Delegates in the House, not all Members/Delegates can have a page each term. Since some Members defer their turn, it is difficult to predict when Congressman Olver's next page slot might become available.

If you are resident of the First Congressional District of Massachusetts (see a map of the District on this website), fit the age, grade and grade point average qualifications, and would like to be considered for a page slot should Congressman Olver have one available, then send Congressman Olver a letter expressing your interest and indicating the term or alternative terms (fall, spring and/or summer) in which you are interested in serving. In your letter, please tell Congressman Olver about yourself (schoolwork, activities, interests, etc.) and outline why you would like to serve as a House page. You may also include a resume, but that is not necessary – just make your letter the equivalent of a resume and an application essay combined.

If the House grants Congressman Olver a page slot for a particular session and there are multiple qualifying applicants from the First Congressional District interested in that session, the Congressman will have to choose between/amongst the applicants. In that situation, the letters of interest that are the equivalent of a resume + application essay will serve as the major basis for his nominating decision.

The accepting dates and deadlines for receipt of application letters in Congressman Olver's Washington office are as follows:

For summer sessions – No earlier than January 2 and no later than March 31

For the fall session – No earlier than May 1 and no later than July 4

For the spring session – No earlier than August 15 and no later than October 15 (the year prior)

Again, keep in mind that the House page program is for 16- or more year-old students in the 11th grade only, except for the short summer programs which are for 16- or more year-old rising 11th graders and rising 12th graders.

Please do not submit a letter of interest prior to the “no earlier than” date. However, if you are interested in multiple alternative sessions, you may (and, in fact, should) submit only one letter of interest during the date range that corresponds to the earliest session in which you are interested. (Due to the significant limitation on the availability of page slots to Members/Delegates, Congressman Olver generally would never be able to grant anyone more than one slot in one session. However, you may express an interest in multiple alternative sessions.)

Congressman Olver will usually be able to let you know if he can accommodate your request by the following dates:

For summer sessions – In mid-April

For the fall session – In mid-July

For the spring session – In late October

If you are nominated by Congressman Olver to be a page in the House, you will then (and only then) have to fill out a secondary, official House Page Program Application. That Application requires the following:

- A list of your extracurricular activities;
- A list of your work experiences;
- An autobiographical statement (similar to the letter required by me – in fact, they can be roughly the same);
- A transcript from your high school;

- An evaluation report form filled out by an appropriate official from your high school; and
- A signed parental consent form.

If Congressman Olver nominates you for a page slot, there is only about a month in between the time that his selection occurs and the deadline for your completion of the more formal House Page Program Application. Accordingly, please be ready to turn around the House Page Program Application in a few weeks if Congressman Olver is granted a slot and nominates you. However, full work on that official Application is not necessary until such a time. Unfortunately, Congressman Olver will not be able to nominate every candidate who wishes to participate in the program.

The page program manager in Congressman Olver's Washington office at present is:

Hunter Ridgway

email address: *hunter.ridgway@mail.house.gov*

phone number: 202-225-5335

Please contact the page program manager directly if you have any questions.

Application letters to Congressman Olver should be sent to:

Congressman John W. Olver

Attention: Page Program Manager

1111 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Or they can be emailed directly to the page program manager at the email addressed noted above (**emailing the page program manager is actually preferred, though not required**).

The U.S. Senate maintains a similar page program, but it is a separate program, and the application process is a completely separate process. Please contact one of or both of Massachusetts' Senators for information about the Senate program.

Thank you for your interest in the House page program!